

Message Text

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ORIGIN IO-14

INFO OCT-01 AF-10 NEA-10 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00
NSAE-00 NSCE-00 SSO-00 ICAE-00 INRE-00 PM-05 H-01
INR-10 L-03 PA-01 SP-02 SS-15 ARA-10 EA-10
EUR-12 SAA-01 /105 R

DRAFTED BY IO:GBHELMAN:MR:MVS
APPROVED BY IO:CWMAYNES
NEA:MDRAPER

-----006799 172310Z /12

O R 172150Z AUG 78
FM SECSTATE WASHDC
TO AMEMBASSY CAIRO IMMEDIATE
USMISSION GENEVA IMMEDIATE
INFO AMEMBASSY ABU DHABI
AMEMBASSY ALGIERS
AMEMBASSY AMMAN
AMEMBASSY DAMASCUS
AMEMBASSY JIDDA
AMCONSUL JERUSALEM
AMEMBASSY KHARTOUM
AMEMBASSY KUWAIT
AMEMBASSY MANAMA
AMEMBASSY RABAT
AMEMBASSY TEL AVIV
AMEMBASSY TUNIS
USMISSION USUN NEW YORK

S E C R E T STATE 209399

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PEPR, EG

SUBJECT: WORLD CONFERENCE ON RACISM: ZIONISM/RACISM
RESOLUTION
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REF: CAIRO 19060

1. WE ARE FRANKLY CONCERNED THAT TACTICS KAMEL DESCRIBED IN PARA 2 REFTEL WILL BE INADEQUATE TO DEAL WITH THE SITUATION IN GENEVA. WE APPRECIATE THE RISK FOR EGYPT IN TAKING A LEADERSHIP POSITION AGAINST

ZIONISM/RACISM. BUT BY RELYING TOO MUCH ON THE AFRICANS TO TAKE THE RIGHT DECISIONS, EGYPT IN FACT WILL BE LEAVING THE FIELD TO THE RADICAL GOVERNMENTS INTENT ON PRESSING FOR A ZIONISM/RACISM RESOLUTION. MANY MODERATE AFRICANS, UNLESS THEY ARE MADE AWARE BY EGYPT AND OTHERS THAT THEY DO NOT WANT A ZIONISM/RACISM RESOLUTION, WILL BE DISINCLINED TO RESIST EFFORTS OF THE RADICALS.

2. THUS WE BELIEVE IT IS IMPORTANT THAT EGYPT, TOGETHER WITH MODERATE ARABS, DEVISE A MORE ACTIVE STRATEGY TO MAKE CLEAR THAT THEY DO NOT WANT A ZIONISM/RACISM RESOLUTION. WHILE IT IS DIFFICULT FROM HERE TO DEVISE AN ALTERNATIVE APPROACH TO THE SITUATION IN GENEVA, ON THE BASIS OF KNOWN NATIONAL POSITIONS, WE WOULD COUNSEL THE FOLLOWING:

-- EGYPT, TOGETHER WITH SELECT LIKE-MINDED ARABS AND AFRICANS (EGYPTIAN REP IN GENEVA WOULD BE IN BEST POSITION TO IDENTIFY THESE), SHOULD CAUCUS INFORMALLY WITH CANADIAN AND DUTCH REPRESENTATIVES, WHO ARE MOST MILITANTLY OPPOSED TO ZIONISM/RACISM.

-- PURPOSE WOULD BE TO DEVISE MUTUALLY-REINFORCING TACTICS, ONE ELEMENT OF WHICH WOULD BE TO MAKE CLEAR TO AFRICANS THAT EGYPT SEES NO NEED FOR SUCH A
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RESOLUTION AND, INDEED, THAT ADOPTION OF A ZIONISM/RACISM RESOLUTION MIGHT HAVE NEGATIVE IMPACT ON MIDDLE EAST PEACE NEGOTIATIONS.

-- UNDER THESE CIRCUMSTANCES, WE WOULD EXPECT MAJORITY OF AFRICANS TO OPPOSE A ZIONISM/RACISM RESOLUTION AND THIS IN TURN WOULD PROVIDE EGYPT WITH EXCUSE IT NEEDS WITHIN ARAB GROUP TO ARGUE AGAINST THE INITIATIVE.

3. FOR GENEVA: SUBJECT TO ANY COMMENTS FROM EMBASSY CAIRO, IF YOU AGREE WITH APPROACH DESCRIBED FOREGOING PARA, YOU SHOULD SOUND OUT CANADIAN AND DUTCH REPS TO SEE IF EITHER OR BOTH WOULD UNDERTAKE LEADERSHIP IN THIS EFFORT. WE HAVE NO OBJECTION TO YOUR DRAWING ON STATE 203701 IN DESCRIBING TO DUTCH AND CANADIAN REPRESENTATIVES BACKGROUND OF OUR THINKING AND NATURE OF OUR CONCERN.

4. FOR CAIRO: WE WOULD APPRECIATE YOUR COMMENTS ON OUR PREFERRED TACTICAL APPROACH. IF YOU SEE NO OBJECTIONS, YOU SHOULD CONVEY OUR THINKING TO KAMEL, ENCOURAGING HIM TO SEND NECESSARY ADDITIONAL IN-

STRUCTIONS TO EGYPTIAN DELEGATION IN GENEVA. IN
MAKING YOUR APPROACH, YOU SHOULD STRESS THAT WE
OPPOSE ZIONISM/RACISM RESOLUTION AS A MATTER OF DEEP
CONVICTION WHICH PARALLELS OUR CONCERN THAT ADOPTION
OF ZIONISM/RACISM RESOLUTION BY THE WORLD CONFERENCE,
AND ASSOCIATION BY EGYPT WITH SUCH A RESOLUTION, COULD
HAVE NEGATIVE IMPACT ON MIDDLE EAST PEACE NEGOTIATIONS,
PARTICULARLY ANY IMMEDIATE IMPACT ON CAMP DAVID SUMMIT.
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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 jan 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: DIPLOMATIC REPRESENTATIONS, RESOLUTIONS, ZIONISM
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 17 aug 1978
Decaption Date: 01 jan 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 20 Mar 2014
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1978STATE209399
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: GBHELMAN:MR:MVS
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: GS
Errors: N/A
Expiration:
Film Number: D780337-0216
Format: TEL
From: STATE
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1978/newtext/t19780852/aaaabrgr.tel
Line Count: 124
Litigation Code IDs:
Litigation Codes:
Litigation History:
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Message ID: b70e7061-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Office: ORIGIN IO
Original Classification: SECRET
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 3
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: SECRET
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: 78 CAIRO 19060
Retention: 0
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 28 jun 2005
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review Media Identifier:
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
SAS ID: 1705449
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: WORLD CONFERENCE ON RACISM: ZIONISM/RACISM RESOLUTION SECRET
TAGS: PEPR, EG
To: CAIRO GENEVA
Type: TE
vdkgvwkey: odb://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS_Docs/b70e7061-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Review Markings:
Sheryl P. Walter
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
20 Mar 2014
Markings: Sheryl P. Walter Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 20 Mar 2014